

CITY OF MUSCATINE  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
Council Chambers – 7:00 p.m. – January 21, 2010

Mayor Dick O'Brien called the City Council meeting for Thursday, January 21, 2010, to order at 7 p.m. Councilmembers present were LeRette, Fitzgerald, Natvig, Shihadeh, Roby, Bynum, and Lange.

City Attorney Harvey Allbee Jr. gave the invocation which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor O'Brien welcomed the Leadership Muscatine group.

Janelle Castle of the Family Eye & Contact Lens Center stated this year's Leadership Muscatine class was submitting a letter to City Council requesting that curbside recycling be discussed during the upcoming budget session. She stated the group feels it would be of great benefit to the City of Muscatine and outlined their reasons why.

#20898. Councilmember Bynum moved to approve the minutes of the January 7, 2010 Regular City Council meeting and the January 14, 2010 In-Depth City Council meeting. Seconded by Councilmember Fitzgerald. All ayes; motion carried.

#20899. Councilmember Lange moved the Consent Agenda be approved as follows: Renewal of a Class C Liquor License for Mami's Mexican Restaurant, 201-205 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street – Elsa de la Paz; renewal of a Class C Beer and Sunday Sales Permit for West Side Store, 2201 Houser Street – DJMB LLC; filing of Communications A-B; and Bills for Approval totaling \$2,190,101.04. Seconded by Councilmember Natvig. All ayes; motion carried.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

Mayor O'Brien stated a public hearing was being held concerning the proposed designation of the Muscatine 2010 Industrial Urban Renewal Area and Urban Renewal Plan.

There were no written or oral petitions for or against the proposed designation.

#20900. Councilmember Shihadeh moved the public hearing be closed. Seconded by Councilmember Bynum. All ayes; motion carried.

#20901. Councilmember Roby moved the proclamation be approved declaring February 2010 as "Dating Violence Awareness Month". Seconded by Councilmember LeRette. All ayes; motion carried.

#20902. Councilmember Shihadeh moved the resolution be adopted approving the designation of the Muscatine 2010 Industrial Urban Renewal Area and Urban Renewal Plan. Seconded by Councilmember Natvig.

Councilmember Bynum asked Tom Green, a representative of Heinz, how the construction was going.

Mr. Green stated it is on time and on budget. He stated the support of the City of Muscatine was a big factor in determining whether improvements should be made to the facility.

Councilmember Lange stated there was a new truck entrance and asked if it was permanent. Mr. Green answered yes. He stated the new entrance should make exiting on to Isett Avenue much easier.

Councilmember LeRette asked when the project would be completed.

Mr. Green stated it should be up and running in April.

Councilmember Natvig asked how many years Heinz has been in Muscatine.

Mr. Green stated that production started in 1893.

Vote – All ayes: Councilmembers LeRette, Fitzgerald, Natvig, Shihadeh, Bynum, Roby, and Lange. Motion carried and resolution duly adopted.

#20903. Councilmember Roby moved the resolution be adopted setting a public hearing on the annual application for state and federal transit funds for fiscal year 2010/2011. Seconded by Councilmember Fitzgerald. All ayes: Councilmembers LeRette, Fitzgerald, Natvig, Shihadeh, Bynum, Roby, and Lange. Motion carried and resolution duly adopted.

#20904. Councilmember Natvig moved the resolution be adopted authorizing the assessment of unpaid abatement costs to private properties. Seconded by Councilmember Bynum.

Councilmember Roby, speaking in reference to the administrative fees that are charged, stated these fees could be discussed during the budget review sessions or when Steve Boka returns.

Vote – All ayes: Councilmembers LeRette, Fitzgerald, Natvig, Shihadeh, Bynum, Roby, and Lange. Motion carried and resolution duly adopted.

#20905. Councilmember Roby moved the resolution be adopted authorizing the demolition of the property located at 103 W. 11<sup>th</sup> Street. Seconded by Councilmember Lange.

Councilmember Bynum asked if the property owner was going to demolish the property himself.

City Administrator Gregg Mandsager stated a call had been received today from the individual's attorney who stated the property owner was not going to challenge tonight's action or demolish the property.

Councilmember Roby stated she appreciated receiving the timeline outlining the actions that have taken place to date on this property.

Vote – All ayes: Councilmembers LeRette, Fitzgerald, Natvig, Shihadeh, Bynum, Roby, and Lange. Motion carried and resolution duly adopted.

Under comments, Councilmember Fitzgerald recognized his daughter, Jennifer Peterson, who was part of the Leadership Muscatine group.

Councilmember Natvig stated he was glad to see the Leadership class at the meeting. He then thanked Randy Hill and his staff for their ice control efforts.

Councilmember Bynum invited everyone to attend the farewell reception for outgoing Councilmembers Press and Howard to be held on Wednesday, January 27, 2010, from 3 to 5 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

Councilmember Bynum then invited people to the "Walk to Cure Diabetes" breakfast to be held at the Stanley Auditorium located at 225 Iowa Avenue on Friday morning, January 22, 2010. He stated the actual walk will take place on April 30, 2010.

Councilmember Lange stated he was also glad to see the Leadership class at the meeting.

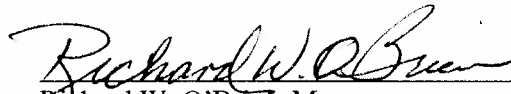
City Attorney Allbee stated that Steve Boka, the city's Planning, Zoning & Building Safety Director, was absent from the meeting to attend funeral services for his son who died unexpectedly earlier in the week. He asked everyone to keep him and his family in their thoughts.


City Administrator Mandsager provided Councilmember LeRette with information concerning tax increment financing which can be found on the Iowa Department of Economic Development's website. He had presented Councilmember Natvig with the information earlier in the day. He told Councilmembers he would provide a copy to anyone that wanted one.

Mayor O'Brien welcomed everyone in the audience and also invited everyone to the farewell reception for Bob Howard and Marie Press.

#20906. Councilmember Shihadeh moved the meeting be adjourned at 7:24 p.m. Seconded by Councilmember Fitzgerald. All ayes; motion carried.



  
Richard W. O'Brien, Mayor

  
Gregg Mandsager, City Administrator